Exodus 20:1-3

**God Comes First**

**Discussion Questions**

1. Can you give some examples of everyday relationships and how they are regulated by guidelines or accepted standards of behavior? (work, family, friends, etc.) What happens when these “rules of relationship” are not followed?
2. How important are these guidelines in maintaining community? How do they protect community?
3. Are there any examples from our legal system that demonstrates just punishment and just compensation for those harmed by breaking the law? Why is this important?
4. Read: Matthew 22:36-40. Why are these commands not legalism? In what ways are they expressions of love?
5. What was the first violation of God’s Top Ten in the history of mankind? What sin was it? What was the root cause of it? What were the results?
6. Describe in your own words the following gods of America:

* Self
* Sacrifice
* Sex
* State
* Science
* Society

1. Which of these gods are the most dominant in the world in which you live on a daily basis? How are they **not** expressions of love?
2. Which are the most subtle? Which are the most damaging? Why?
3. What tangible steps can we take personally and as a church community to challenge people to worship the One True God?